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OFFICE OF PETITIONS

In re Application of	:	
Patricia Ann Piers et al	:	
Application No. 10/724,852	:	DECISION ON PETITION
Filed: December 1, 2003	:	UNDER 37 CFR 1.78(a)(6)
Attorney Docket No. AMOI0010U-US	:	

This is a decision on the petition under 37 CFR § 1.78(a)(6), filed May 13, 2007, to accept an unintentionally delayed claim under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) for benefit of priority to the prior-filed provisional application set forth in the concurrently filed amendment.

The petition is **DISMISSED AS MOOT**.

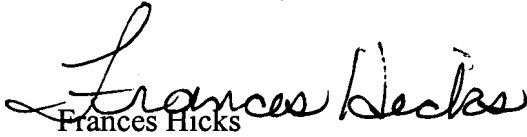
The petition is accompanied by an amendment to the first sentence of the specification following the title to include a reference to the prior-filed application. While a reference to the prior-filed nonprovisional application was not included in an Application Data Sheet (ADS) or in the first sentence of the specification following the title as required by the rules, a reference, nevertheless, was made in a paper filed with the application.

Where a claim for priority under 37 CFR § 1.78(a)(6) is not included in the first sentence of the specification or in an ADS but does appear either in the oath or declaration, transmittal letter, or other paper filed with the application and the Office notes the claim for priority, no petition will be required to accept a late claim for priority. This is because the application would have been scheduled for publication on the basis of the information concerning the claim submitted elsewhere in the application within the time period set forth in 37 CFR § 1.78(a)(5)(ii). On the other hand, if the USPTO does not note the claim for priority to the prior-filed application set forth in the oath or declaration, transmittal letter, or other paper submitted with the application, a petition will be required to accept a late claim for priority under 37 CFR § 1.78(a)(6).¹ In the present case, the Office noted the claim for priority to the prior-filed application in a paper entitled "Claim for Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119," filed with the application, as shown by its inclusion on the filing receipt.

¹ Note MPEP 201.11 (III)(D) and 66 Federal Register 67087 at 67089 (Dec. 28, 2001), effective December 28, 2001.

Any questions concerning this decision on petition may be directed to Irvin Dingle at (571) 272-3210. All other inquiries concerning either the examination procedures or status of the application should be directed to the Technology Center.

This application is currently before Technology Center AU 3738 for appropriate action on the reply received to the Office action of February 23, 2007.

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Frances Hicks".

Frances Hicks
Petition Examiner
Office of Petitions